WEATHER FORECAST.

nesday night in northern and western pertions.

North Carolina—Fair Tuesday and Wed-nesday; light variable winds.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

VOL. 15. NO. 270.

RICHMOND. VA. WEDNESDAY. JANUARY 9. 1901.

BATTLED WITH CHINESE TROOPS

Two Hundred were Killed and 300 Wounded.

THE REMAINDER FLED

Another Fight, With Similar Result, Reported in North China.

SURPRISED AT COURT'S ACTION.

The Instruction of Plenipotentiaries Not to Sign Note Creates a Sensation in Pekin-Li Hung's Alleged Illness Thought to Be a Plan to Cause Delay.

(By Associated Press.)

PEKIN, Jan. 8 .- The protest of the Viceroy of Yang Tse to the signing of the joint note has created little surpris here, but the fact that the other south ern viceroys also having protested caused the Court to instruct the plenipotentaries not to sign the note, has caused a sensa tion in Pekin.

The ministers believe, however, that Prince Ching is too irrevocably bound verbally and think he will sign to-mor row. The objections of the southern vicerovs are precisely the same as those which the Court originally telegraphed t Ching, and concerning which, or the representations of Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, the Court eventually agreed to endeavor to make better terms after the signing of the note.

The Court doubtless was influenced by the protests from the south because it was generally felt that the dynasty had less influence there than in the north. Li Hung Chang has strongly urged the Li Hung Chang has strongly urged the Court not to return to Pekin, but to establish a capital in Yang Tse Valley. He says this will strengthen the south toward the Chinese cause, and that the signing of the agreement as it exists at present would be a most serious menace to the dynasty, as the state of the country is doubtful.

The note will be signed if China is sincere in carrying out the provisions of the agreement.

agreement.
TO GAIN DELAY.

TO GAIN DELAY.

Li Hung Chang is invisible to the public. His attendars claim that he is suffering from a severe relapse, though many persons think his relapse is made a convenience so the signing of the note can be delayed until the court can be heard from again.

Count von Roquo, a nephew of Count von Waldersee, rode 70 miles yesterday, bringing the news of a battle between the Chinese and German troops to the northeast of Pekin. Three companies of infantry and one troop of Unlans met 2,000 Chinese. An engagement ensued, in which 200 Chinese were killed and 300 wounded. Three German soldiers were killed, and one officer and several men were wounded. The remainder of the Chinese field.

A German expedition in the northern A German expedition in the northers district encountered at Sze Hai Kong twenty miles northwest of the junction twenty miles northwest of the junction of the great wall, 2,000 Chinese. The Germans rooted toward Lui Tin Fu, where they were reinforced. The country is exceedingly mountainous, and the village is in an employed valley with age is in an enclosed valley, with a led entrance. The Germans advanced

willage is in an chelosed valley, with a wailed entrance. The Germans advanced to attack the wall, whereupon the Chinese had mounted ten cannon, including four old Krupps. A mountain battery bombarded the place for an hour, and the position was then taken at the point of the bayonet. Three hours further fighting occurred before the enemy were driven out of the valley. The Chinese loss is estimated at 20, and the Germans lost one killed and four wounded.

The Germans, after destroying all the dwellings, retired to Yen King.

INDEMNITY AND TREATY.

Negotiating to Transfer This Phase of Question from Pekin. (By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.-The negotiaons which have been pending relative to e removal from Pekin of some of the the removal from Pekin of some of the subjects in international negotiations, so that they could be taken up at Wash-ington or at the capital of one of the other Powers, have now advanced to a singe where there is promise of a satisfactory understanding among the Power

on this move. plan originated through a cabled suggestion of Minister Conger al week age, that there was little prospect of securing united action on the subject of indemnity and of new commercial treaties with China. For this reason Mr. Conger suggested that better progress in the negotiations were likely to result if these two phases could be removed from Pekin and taken up at some point en-tirely removed from the local influences prevailing there.

FAVORABLY RECEIVED.

Mr. Conger's idea met with favorable consideration from the officials here, and accordingly the suggestion was com-municated by this Government to the other Powers interested in China. It was not intended to sever the entire peace negotiations from Pekin, but that these two phases, indemnity and new com-mercial treaties, be taken up at Wash-ington or some other capital, where shere would be assembled an International Commission which would pass upon al the main a conference among the Pow-ers, although it is expected that Chinese envoys would be lavited to participate after the proceedings have reached a stage where similarity of action among

the Powers was assured. The Secretary of State has already received indications of the feelings of some of the Powers on this subject, but there has been no general action on the part of any of the Powers, nor such a concensus of opinion as to foreshadow the result. There appears to be no reason to anticipate serious opposition to the transfer as most of the Powers have appreciated the obstacles at Pekin in the way of an agreement on the two subjects of indemnity and commercial treaties. BANEFUL INFLUENCE.

Minister Conger was heard from in a cablegram to the State Department. The text of the dispatch was not given out, but it was made known that, in sub-stance, Mr. Conger confirmed recent press reports to the effect that there was reason to believe the Empress Dowager was exerting her influence against the

acceptance of the demands submitted by the Powers.

These advices lead to apprehension in official quarters of another crisis in the negotiations. As the demands of the Powers are "irrevocable" they amount to an ultimatum, so that a refusal on the part of China to sign would be equivalent to the rejection of an ultimatum. Under part of China to sign would be equivalent to the rejection of an ultimatum. Under these circumstances official attention is already being given to the course to be pursued in case of a refusal on the part of China,

NO DECLARATION OF WAR. It is the general belief that under ne ircumstances there would be a declaration of war to enforce the demands, but rather a prolonged occupancy of Pekin, which would again involve complications over word again involve complication over the dismemberment of the Empire The position of the United States happen to be more fortunate than that of to other Powers in this emergency, for accepted the word "irrevocable luctance, and then instructed Minister Conger to sign with an express reserva-tion that the execution of the demands would not lead to any territorial aggran-dizement, for the United States Govern ment is seeking to insist on the signing the agreement by the Chinese envoys of the ground that they acted for the Chinese Government with sfull power, and could sign without reference to the attitude of the court and in case the signatures were given they would be accepted as a complete expression of the wishes of China.

MADE LITTLE HEADWAY.

Mr. Choate and Lord Lansdowne Discuss Chinese Question. (By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Jan. 8 .- Mr. Choate had an

nterview regarding the Chinese situation with Lord Lansdowne at the Foreign Office to-day, but little headway was made. The discussion was confined to the difficulties of the Powers in agreeing the dinculars of the Fower in agreement to China's answer to their demand, which will necessitate further negotiations. Great Britain has not yet replied to the circular of the United States Government inviting the Powers to confer in Washington. The Associated Press is authorized to say that she is willing to agree to the proposal if the other Powers will also agree, but the impression prerails in London that the other Europ

British officials generally are dish ened over the latest muddles in Pekin, and fear that a long time will clapse before matters are made straight. It is pointed out that a conference in Washington would be a cause of serious delay onvenience to many Powers who would be obliged to send special repre-sentaties. If it should be decided to hold a conference in Washington, Lord, Pauneefote will probably represent Great

The success or failure of Secretary Hay's latest effort seems to depend main-(Continued on Seventh Page,)

BIG CARNIVAL HERE NEXT FALL

Board of Directors so Decided at the Meeting Last Nignt-

There will be another Street Fair and Carnival!

This was decided upon by the Board of Directors of the Carnival Association at the meeting held at the rooms of the T P. A. last night.

It was also determined to secure guarantee fund of \$15,000 from the merchants and the citizens, and this will be done early in February, when committees will be started out to visit the merchants and business men.

The date will be fixed at a later meet

ing of the board, probably at the next meeting, on the second Tuesday in Feb-The meeting last night was the largest

and most enthusiastic ever heid, and it was the unanimous sentiment of the Board that a Carnival to eclipse the one of last spring if possible be given. There were a number of speakers who dwelt upon the enormous amount of good

done the city by the first Carnival, and they contended that with such a succes ful affair as an experiment there could hardly be a failure in the second attempt. Experience had taught many things, said the speaker, and with all the suc

said the speaker, and with all the suc-cess last spring, there could be but more this fall. Those who were skeptical when they entered the room soon realized that the Carnival Association was a real thing, with men of energy and brains at the

head of it. Before the discussion of another Cartival was entered into, the Board of Di mival was entered 1916, the Board of Di-rectors for the ensuing year was elected and the report of the treusurer was re-ceived. The treusurer's report showed that there was the sum of \$1,699.31 on hand to the credit of the Association. Mr. L. Z. Morris presided at the meet-ing, and Mr. P. A. S. Brine acted as sec-tracts. The following discretizations are

ctary. The following directors were elect-

Augustine Royall, O. S. Allen, P. A. S. Brine, J. Stuart Bryan, E. H. Clowes, W. S. Copeland, Marx Gunst, O. A. Hawkins, J. L. Hill, B. S. Hume, H. C. Jones, Robt. Lecky, Jr., H. Lee Lorreine, L. O. Miller, Morgan R. Mills, L. Z. Morris, John Murphy, J. D. Patton, John D. Potts, C Walton Saunders, Sam Stern, W. M. Hil H. L. Valentine, E. L. Bemiss, Berkel Williams, John A. Moroso, Jud B. Wood, H. D. Elcheiberger, O. H. Funsten, John S. Harwood, A. H. Meyer, G. W. Minter, O. H. Berry, G. Percy Hawes, M. S Quarles, W. C. Noland, W. E. Cutshaw P. G. Kelly, R. L. Winston, James N. Boyd, T. G. Leath. Upon motion of Mr. Meyer, Mr. Boyd

addressed the meeting, and curnestly sug-gested that upon the start, and before definite arrangements be entered into, the merchants of the city be visited and the amount of money that each would sub-scribe be ascertained, so that there would be no chances at the first for some on to env. "I told you so.

Mr. Bryan spoke in favor of going ahead, for he felt that the necessary amount of funds would be forthcoming, and he didn't think the elements would be against the Curnival, for it was a good work for the

Mr. W. H. Zimmerman thought that the success of the Carnival last year, when it was an experiment, meant that this year there would be no trouble in securing the fund.

the fund.

Other enthusiastic speakers were Col.

Percy Hawes, Col. John S. Harwood, Mr.

O. H. Funsten, Mr. C. Walton Saunders, Mr. A. H. Meyer and Col. John Murphy. The meeting then adjourned, and the Board of Directors immediately met and elected the following officers for the en

suing year; President-A. H. Meyer.

(Continued on Third Page)

NINETY SOULS RUMORS ABOUT THE SEABOARD

Thick and Fast.

REPORTS OF SHAKEUP

No Statement Can Be Gotten From Vice-President St. John.

HE REFUSES TO SAY ANYTHING.

Intimations That Ryan Will Make Peace Under Certain Conditions-Great Surprise Over the General Manager's Res-

ignation.

escertain why Mr. E. St. John had resigned as vice-president and general manager of the Scabbard Air Line, but with little success.

Several newspaper reporters started out on a still hunt with instructions to find out everything they could about the rumors of a general Scaboard shake-up, the alleged burying of the batchet between Mr. Thomas F. Ryan, of New York, who has long been a disturbing element in and the Williams end of the controversy, and reports of a consolidation with the Southern. Half a dozen people or more, who are supposed to be on the inside of these matters were seen and questioned cosely, but each of these genticmen shook has head, and closed up tight as a York River cyster. "Keep quet: If there was anything to keep quet, seemed to be the general motto.

Meanwhile rumors were thick and fast. One rumor seemed to hatch out another. One report published was to the effect that Mr. St. John didn't like it because President John Skeiton Williams, of the President John Skeiton Windams, of the Scabbard Air Line, disregarded some of his recommendations in the matter of ap-pointing minor officials in the traffic and other departments of the road. This could not be verified, and was not denied by anyone in authority to do so, as Williams himself sent word that he clined to say anything for publication and was, indeed, so busy that he couldn't idmit the reporter who called at his of-

REPORTS OF PEACE. Another rumor was to the effect that peace negotiations were on between the Ryan interests and those represented by the Williams syndicate, and that probply terms would be agreed upon under ably terms would be agreed upon under which everything would run along smoothly hereafter. This report, or intimation to that effect, was published in a Baltimore paper, but after raking all available sources with a fine tooth comb, no flat-footed statement could be made as to its truth of error.

Alr. William M. Habliston, of the National Rank of Virginia who is closely

Air. William M. Habilston, of the National Bank of Virginia, who is closely associated with some of the Williams interests, when seen at his place of business yesterday, said he knew nothing about the resignation of Mr. St. John, the alleged movement on foot for a general shake-up, the naming of Mr. St. John's successor, or anything about peace negotiations with the Ryan end of the enterprise

prise.

News was unxiously awaited from Norfelk yesterday, with the hope that Mr.

St. John would make a statement as to of his resignation and his fu-No statement came up to a ate hour. All that could be gotten ov the wires up to the time the afternoon capers go to press was that Mr. St. John ip to that time, that he has been dering the step for a month or more; that ne will for some months, possibly always, remain here; that he is arbitrator of sub-Asiatic and European freight rates for sixteen great railway systems, of which two are Canadian lines, and has much work to do in this connection; that he has will for some months, possibly always, work to do it this several offers of positions from rallways, all of which he may decline.

Mr. Cecil Gabbett, formerly General

Manager of the Georgia and Alabama, is said to be picked out to succeed Mr. St. John, and the resignation of several minor officials is imminent. A general

minor dificials is imminent. A general shuke-up is believed to be on.
All this information came to The Evening Leader from Norfolk, and while the matter of Mr. St. John's successor was not stated as a fact, the publication was based upon what appeared to be the general impression among railroad men in that city.

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS. Soon efter this information was received there came a roundabout interview from Mr. J. William Middendorf, one of the di-rectors of the Seaboard Air Line and member of the banking firm of Midden-dorf, Oliver and Company, of Baltimore, which had a hand in the reorganization and consolidation of the system in

present shape.

Mr. Middendorf is quoted as saying that there would be important developments in connection with the Ryan negotiations within the next month. Just what these developments are to be, he did not say, Indeed Mr. Middendorf's remarks were indeed Mr. Madeauor's remarks were carefully guarded. When asked if the negotiations were pending with a view of the acquirement of Kyan's holdings in the enterprise, he repiled that it was difficult to keep anything out of the newspapers. Whether this meant that the reports about pages between Eyan and Williams factions. peace between Ityan and Williams factions were well founded is not known. The truth is, it seems to be difficult to get at the bottom of any of the various reports being published about Mr. Ryan, Mr. Wil-liems, Mr. Middendorf, Mr. St. John and

numerous other gentlemen. Rumors in railroad circles of Baltimore had an intimate connection with the prospective settlement of the Ryan matter. It is well known that Mr. St. John has shown himself to be a vigorous fighter in a railroad scrap, and, as has been stated, the Scaboard under his control incurred the hostility of its most for-midable rivals and competitors in the

South. AS VIEWED IN BALTIMORE. A Baltimore paper says along this line: "Taking the resignation into considera-tion with recent reports of establishing perfect harmony in the railroad situation down South, transportation men inclined to think that, owing to Mr. Ryan's alleged relations with the Southern, he leged relations with the Southern, he probably prescribed the retirement of Mr. St. John as a prerequisite to a cessation of his (Mr. Ryan's) fight in the courts. of his (Mr. Ryan's) fight in the courts.
"Director Middendorf said that he

(Continued on Second Page.)

BURLEIGH BILL LIKELY TO PERISH

Are Floating Around The Mail Steamer Russie Stranded During Storm

WAVES RUNOVER HER

Rough Seas Render Futile All Attempts at Rescue.

WIND BLOWING A HURRICANE.

Rockets Have Been Repeatedly Fired, but Each Time the Line Has Fallen Short-A Great Crowd Assembled Along the Shore to Watch the Vessel Which Is Bumping Heavily.

(By Associated Press.)

MARSEILLES, Jan. 8 .- A terrible disaster threatens the mail steamer Russie, from Oran, which stranded yesterday on he coast near the village of Faraman during the violent storm, with fifty passengers and a crew of forty on board. She has heeled to the starboard and perate attempts to rescue her company by life boats and steam tugs were made yesterday and have been repeated to-day but thus far the rough seas have pre

but thus far the rough seas have prevented every effort to approach her.

The wind is still blowing a hurricane with no signs of abatement. A great crowd is assembled along the shores, excitedly watching the endeavors to communicate with those on board the ship, which is bumping heavily as the seas dash over her. Rockets have been fired, but each time the line has fallen short.

Rear Admiral Besson, naval prefect of Marsedles, has telegraphed to Toulon for the dispatch of the powerful tug Travallleur immediately to the stene. As darkness fell this evening the authorities were assembled on shore and the lifeboats were lying off awaiting the first opportunity to effect a rescue; but the opportunity to effect a rescue; but the latest dispatches from the lighthouse-keeper at Faraman describes the position of the steamer as tippeless.

It is probable that the vessel and all on board will perish.

NATIVE RICHMONDER DEAD.

Paymaster Charles P. Thompson Passed Away Yesterday.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Paymaster Charles P. Thompon, of the United States navy, died to-day at his residence in this navy, died to-day at his residence in this city. He had been an invalid for several years, and his death was not unexpected. Paymaster Thompson was a native of Richmond, Va., and came from a distinguished family.

Charles P. Thompson was born in Richmond and was one the several children of the late Charles Gare and Flizar.

dren of the late Charles Gage and Eliza dren of the late Charles Gage and Elizabeth Wallwork Thompson. He received his early education in the schools of his native city, and when a mere youth, desiring to relieve his parents of the support of one of their large family, enlisted in the navy. He worked his own way forward from the forecastle to the cabin, and solely on his own merit was appointed a second lieutenant. In 1865 he was made assistant paymaster and the following a year a paymaster. He was re-

Throughout his career he was known for his sterling honesty and charitable and genial disposition. He was for many years connected with St. John's Episcopa hurch of this city, and was a vestryman and treasurer. His funeral will take place on Thursday at 2 P. M. from St. Paul's Episcopal Church. A battalion of marines will act as escort and a number of naval officers and officials, intimate friends of tional Cemetery at Ariington.

MORE KIDNAPPING.

Five Thousand Pollars Ransom for Bass Fraser. (By Associated Press.)

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Jan. 8.-From Union Springs, this State, it is learned that N. H. Fraser, tax collecter of Bulloch county, has received a letter, dated Memphis, from men claiming they had kidnapped Fraser's eighteen-year-old son, Baos, in Atlanta, and demanding \$5,00

ransom.
The letter contained young Fraser's The letter contained young Fraser signature as proof of their claim. Fraser was a student in the technological school at Atlanta, and has not been seen there in several days. The kidnappers asserted they were on their way to Kansas City, whence further negotiations would be

LAST SEEN SATURDAY.

Mother of Missing Boy Prostrated With Grief.

(By Associated Press.)
ATLANTA, GA., Jan. 8.—Bass Fraser. who according to a letter received by his father, at Union Springs, Ala., was kidnapped in this city, while attending the Technological School, was last seen here Saturday, January 5th. Two of his brothers arrived here to-night from

Union Springs, Ala. Bass Fraser was a member of the first year's class. His brothers say their father is unable to pay the ransom. The mother of the boy is prostrated with

EIGHT INSTANTLY KILLED.

Engine Collides With Empty B. & O. Train At Full Speed.

(By Associated Press.)
FARRMOUNT, W. VA., Jan. 8.—An
astbound engine with 23 empty cars collided with a westbound engine running light on the bridge crosing the mouth of Koons Run, above Everson section, on the Monongalia division of the Balti-more & Otio to-day, killing eight men and injuring three, one fatally. Both engines were go at at full speed. The heroic action of Brakeman O'Leary in running a mile to signal the fiyer saved the lives of many of its passengers.

Death of Mrs. Grant.

Mrs. Wm. H. Grant, widow of the late Wm. H. Grant, died at the residence of Wm. H. Grant, Jr., No. 111 West time and her death was not unexpected.

PASSED BY HOUSE

No State Will Lose a Representative.

SEVERAL MAKE GAINS

Result Brought About By Influence of Senators.

ATTEMPTED TO COMPROMISE.

Adversaries of Hopkins Measure Were, However, Too Sure of Victory -- Measure Provides for Contiguous and Compact Congressional

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Jun. 8.-By a vote of 165 to 102 the House to-day accepted the reapportionment plan proposed by the Burleigh bill, which increases the mem bership of the House during the next decade from 358, the present membership and the membership proposed by the

Committee or Hopkins' bill, to 386.

The result was largely brought about by the influence of certain Sensitors from several of the larger Northern States, who threw the weight of their influence who threw the weight of the larger membership. When it became apparent that these factors were at work against his bill. Mr. Hopkins attempted to compromise by giving an auditional representative, each to North Dakota, Colorado and Clerick, but his adversaries refused to Florida, but his adversories refused to compromise after complete victory was

The Crumpacker proposition to recon mit the bill for the purpose of ascertain-ing what States abridged the right to vote to an extent which would entail re-duced representation, was defeated, 130 to

VOTED WITH DEMOCRATS.

There was no roll-call on the vote, but a number of Republicans voted with the Lemocrats.
Under the bill, as passed to-day, no State loses a representative and the following make gains: Illinois, New York and Tweet Twee each: Minnesota, New State loses a representative and the forlowing make gains: Illinois, New York
and Texas, three each: Minnesota, New
edrsey and Pennsylvania, two each: Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut,
Florida, Louistera, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, North
Dakota, Washington, West Virginia and
Wisconsin, one each. The bill provides
that whenever a new State is admitted
the representative assigned to it shall be
in addition to the number provided in the
bill. It also adds a provision, never hitherto incorporated in a reapportionment
bill, to the effect that Congressional districts in addition to being "centiquous"
shall also be "compact."

States which are allowed additional representatives by the bill shall by its
terms elect them at large until the Legislature shall redistrict the State.

ROBBED RURAL DISTL "TS.

ROBBED RURAL DIST.

ROBBED RURAL DIST. TS.

Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, decarred that
if the Burleigh bill became a law it
would turn over 25 per cent. of the power
of the Fifty-eighth Congress to the cities
of this country and strip the rural districts of their power.

Mr. Otey, of Virg.nia, enlivened the debate with a characteristic speech.

Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, and Mr.
Jones, of Virginia, also spoke.

Mr. Hopkins closed the general debate
with an eloquent appeal to members to
vote not for what might be best for their
own districts or States, but for the best
interests of the whole country.

interests of the whole country.

White, of North Carolina, the only negro in the House, created something of a sent-ation by a fiery speech of five minutes denouncing the alleged tra-

ducers of his race.

Mr. William Alden Smith, of Michigan Mr. William Aiden Smith, of Michigan, offered an amendment to the Eurleigh substitute to fix the membership at 395. The vote was first taken on the Spalding amendment to the original text of the Hopkins bill to increase the membership to

Hopkins bill to increase the membership to 260, and assigning the additional representatives to Colorado, Florida and North Dakota, and it prevailed without division. The Smith amendment to the Burleigh substitute was defeated, 85 to 136. The vote—was then taken upon the Burleigh substitute. Both sides demanded the ayes and noes, and the roll was called. ROUND OF APPLAUSE. The Burieigh substitute was adopted, 165 to 102. The announcement was greeted

165 to 192. The announcement was greeter with a round of applause.

Mr. Clark, of Missouri, then offered an amendment to create a territory out of the District of Columbia and allow the District a delegate in the House.

The amendment was raied out on a point of order.

Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, expressed the opinion that the provision requiring that con-

ion that the provision requiring that con-gressional districts should be "contiguous and compact" was absolutely unconsti-

tutional.

The House passed a bill to pay the mile age of messengers who shall bring the electoral votes of the several States to Washington at the rate of 25 ccats per Then, at 4:45 P. M., the House ad-

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The Senat had under consideration to-day the much mooted canteen question in connection with the army reorganization bill. The Senate committee in effect restored the

In the Senate.

by the House.
For nearly five hours the Senate dis-cussed the committee amendment. It is possible a vote may be reached late to-

morrow afternoon.

An amendment offered by Mr. Bates, of Tennessee, was adopted, authorizing the Secretary of War to appoint one hundred additional hospital stewards in the regular army, volunteer stewards in the Span-ish war being given preference.

PEACE PARTY.

Burghers in Orange River Colony Urged to Surrender.

(By Associated Press.)
CAPE TOWN, Jan. 8.—The Central
Peace Commission at Kroonstadt has
issued a circular in the course of which "The time has arrived for the in-

habitants of Orange River Colony to make an effort to save the country from fur-ther destruction. The country is literally a vast wilderness. The farmers, ruined and facing starvation, are obliged to go to the towns for protection, and huge refugee camps have been formed by the British for them. This is caused by an obstinate minority, who will not bow to the inevitable."

The circular points out that the British will never restore independence to the Republics, and urges upon the Burghers

the duty of surrendering and accepting the terms of peace. The recent Afrikander Congress at Worcester is criticised in the circular as "misleading the Boers and giving false impressions."

BOERS NEAR KIMBERLEY.

Looted a Farm Within Seven Miles of

the City.
(By Associated Press.)

(By Associated Press.)

CAPE: TOWN, Jan, S.—it is reported that the Boers have reached Sutherland and are within twenty miles of the village of Piquetberg.

The country around Kimberley is being cleared of people, live stock and foodstuffs. A commando of one hundred and fitty looted a cattle farm seven miles from Kimberley.

It is reported that all residents of Vryberg who are unable to supply themselves with provisions for two months must be brought south.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Experiments Made by the French Are Very Successful. (By Associated Press.)

TOULON, Jan. 8.—The recent experiments with wireless telegraphy in connection with the French fleet have been so satisfactory that it has been decided to provide the entire Mediterranean squadron with wireless apparatus, which will be subjected to decisive tests during the coming cruise of that squadron. The recent experiments showed that dispatches can be exchanged reliably at distances of from eighteen to twenty miles by the new system. New lights will also be tried, with the view of introduc

Old Officers Re-elected. (By Associated Press.)

ing reform in tactical signalling.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 8.-The an nual meetings of the three Planti lines-the Charleston and Savannah, the Green-pond and the Ashley River Road-were held here to-day. President R. G. Erwin and the other directors were present. All the old officers were re-elected, and the properties were reported in prosperous

Lieut.-Commander Hall Out. (By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Jan. 8 .- Lieutenant-Com-

mander Hall, of the Steam Engineering Department of the navy-yard, who was so seriously injured early last December, reported for duty to-day. Within a short time Lieutenant-Commander Hall will be granted three months' leave of absence and will go South.

The Soudan Safe. (By Associated Press.)

BRUSSELS, Jan. 8—There is no truth in the report of the foundering of the steamer Soudan, which left Antwerp in

December to undertake river service in the Congo Free State. ELECTRIC LINE

TO PETERSBURG

The Contract For Its Construction

Has Been Let-Surveys Completed. There is every reason to betlieve that the Richmond and Petersburg Electric Railway will be built and built soon. The projectors of this enterprise together with the principal officials of the company drove over the route of the road verterday. They well much pleased

with the country through which the road

will pass, and are determined to push

is construction with all speed. The officials of the company are Major Corbin Warwick, President; Judge J. L. Hauer, secretary; J. R. Nutt, treasurer, and J. F. Pfetch, general manager. Mr. Will Christy and the Messrs. Mandel-baum, father and son, are also heavily interested in the construction of the road. Judge Hauer and Mr. Pfetch wal be the resident officials. They have opened an office in the new bullding in the rear of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Pletch was formerly general manager of n charge of the construction of the Aurora, Wheaton, and Chicago Electric Aurora, wheaton, and Chicago Electric Rallway, connecting the cities of Aurora, Egin, Batavia, and Wheaton with Chi-cago. This road, when completed, will be among the linest suburban electric lines in the world. He has constructed lines in Letrait, Toronto, Eric, London (Canada), Jamestown, N. Y., and Akron

THE CONTRACT. The contract for the construction of the toad (has been let to the Cleveland Construction Co., of Akron, Chio. A con-

The surveys are practically nd the grading is well under day. company hopes to have its cars running a March. The material has been ordered

and is first-class in every respect The stock of the company will be \$1,000, The stock of the bonds have been sub-scribed for and taken by the Cleveland Trust Company, of Cleveland; the West-ern Reserve Trust Company, of Cleve-land, and the Akron Trust Company, of

land, and the Akron Trust Company, of Akron, to absolutely assure the completion and operation of the line. The success of the project is thus not dependent on the sale of bonds.

The projectors are the constructors, owners and operators of the line between Dayton and Cincinnati, of the Southern Ohio Traction Company, also of the Northern Ohio Traction Company between Akron and Cleveland, including the Akron Akron and Cleveland, including the Akror city system of electric lighting and rail-They are now constructing th Western Ohio Railway, thirty-two miles in length, between Lima, Wapakoneta and St. Marys, O. With the party was Mr W. E. Davis, electrical engineer of the Cleveland Construction Company, former-ly general manager of the Loraine and

Cleveland Railway. MOTIVE POWER.

The question of motive power is unde-termined as yet. The construction conract covers the erection of a power-house if power cannot be purchased at satis-factory rates. Negotiations are in pro-gress with the Virginia Electrical Railvay and Development Company at this

The cars will be double truck suburban cars, elegantly constructed and equipped each costing about \$6,000. The route will be along the main road to Petersburg be along the mata back to receive practically. Men have been at work grading for a week or more, and a very large force will be put on at once.

Judge Hauer while on a visit to the city

during the Carnival last spring, saw the opening and opportunity for such a line Soon after his return to Cleveland the charter and franchise were bought. The Carnival in this way brought to Rich-mond a million dollar company and a carnivar in this way brought to Rich-mond a million dollar company and a railway that will greatly benefit the city, and develop, as nothing else will, the country adjacent to the proposed route.

SALIC BANQUET A **GREAT SUCCESS**

High Tributes Paid Company's Fine Record.

ABLE SPEECHES MADE

Mr. D. A. Tompkins On Labor In the South.

MR. WILLIAMS' FINE SPEECH.

He Spoke on the Railway Systems of the South-Mr. Virginius Newton, Hon, A. J. Montague and Others - Big Showing Made by Southern Enterprise.

The first annual banquet of the South Atlantic Life Insurance Company, tendered to the directors and successful agents of the company at the Jefferson last night. was a notable affair. Many friends of this vigorous and thriving young Southern institution gathered with the men who have made it a success to rejoice upon the arrival of this auspicious time in the history of the institution. BIG SOUTHERN ENTERPRISE.

The South Atlantic Life Insurance Com pany was organized by leading business men of Virginia and the South to meet a ong felt want in this section, to-wit, a ife insurance company established and conducted along the lines so successfully pursued by the old-line companies, which would secure to the people of the South the benefit of a first-class life insurance without being removable to end their prewithout being compelled to send their pre-miums to northern and eastern financial centers. The officers of the company are: Bev-erly B. Munford, president: Virginius Newton, first vice-president: General Jul-ian S. Curr, of Durham, N. C., second vice-president: Robert L. Foreman, for-

whee-president; Rishert L. Foreman, for-merly of Atlanta, third vice-president and general manager; Dr. J. Allison Hodges, medical director; David Parks Fackler, of New York, consulting actuary; Frede-ric W. Scott, treasurer; Louis T. Doble, formerly of Norfolk, secretary, and T. Carrington, lately of New York, auditor. THE FINANCES. The finances of the company are man The finances of the company are managed by a committee consisting of Virginius Newton, Frederic W. Scott, S. W. Travers, Langbourne M. Williams and John Kerr Branch. The Executive Committee consists of Sannel T. Morgan, Joseph Bryan, J. D. Patton, J. E. Antrim and George A. Smeltz, of Newport News. The Auditing Committee consists of Philip Whitlock, E. A. Saunders, Jr., and J. W. Perry, of Norfolk.

In addition to the foregoing, the Board

W. Perry, of Norfolk.

In addition to the foregoing, the Board of Directors consists of the following gentlemen: Messrs, W. H. Doyle, N. Beaman, of Norfolk, John W. Craddock, of Lynchburg; George E. Sipe, of Harrisonburg; Chas. L. Holland, of Danville, and Judge A. E. King, of Roanoke; W. A. Clark, of Columbia, S. C.; W. B. Chisolm, of Charleston, S. C.; W. J. K. Orr, of Atlanta, Ga.; Mr. J. A. G. Carson, of Savannah, Ga., and Mr. Chas. W. Worth, of Wilmington, N. C.

The company started out with a paid up capital of \$20,000 and a surplus of \$50,000. From the very first the company met with a most flattering recention at the hands of the public. The high character of the men having the enterprise in charge, the business-like methods pursued, and the deep-seated conviction of the people of the need for such an institution secured it a large pursued, and the deep-seated con-riction of the people of the need for such an institution secared it a large measure of success. The first policy was written on the 19th of May, 1990, and upon the close of the company's business on the 31st of December, more than \$1,000,000 of accepted insurance had been placed upon the company's books.

KIND MESSAGES.

Before proceeding to the toasts Presi-dent Munford read latters from several distinguished gentlemen expressing regret that they were unable to be present and wishing the company continued and increased prosperity; among them: Gover nor J. Hoge Tyler, Mayor Tayle Richmond; Mr. Warren G. Elliot, Richmond; Mr. Warren G. Ellfot, president of the Atlantic Coast Line; Major E. T. D. Myers, president of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad; Colonel A. B. Andrews, vice-president of the Southern Railway; General J. S. Carr. of North Carolina; F. H. Barbee, of Raileigh, N. C.; J. A. G. Carson, of Savanach Ge. L. K. Orr. of Atlanta; W. A. nah, Ga.; J. K. Orr, of Atlanta; W. A. Clark, of Columbia, S. C.; C. W. Werth, of Wilmington, N. C.: Senator Thomas S. Martin, Hon. John Lamb, Hon. Claude

been one of the speakers of the evening, but at the last moment he wired his re-

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.

-Large force of hands to begin work on electric line from this city to Petersburg. -The committee decides on holding a carnival in the fall on a date to be named

pany.

-Man badly injured on railroad brought

State.

Two negroes sent to penitentiary for robbery in Isle of Wight.

James O. Anthony thrown from his cart, in Richmond county, and receives fatal injuries.

A terrific explosion destroys a store and the postoffice at Boyce.

The case against ex-Senator W. A. Little was postroned.

Little was postponed.

Major Lassiter makes his reply to the notice of contest for his seat. General.

Twenty-eight persons burned to death in fire that destroyed Rochester (N. Y.) Orphan Asylum.

The President confined to his room by an attack of the grip.

Burleigh substitute for Hopkins reapportionment bill adopted in House by a destrict or majority.

. Foreign.
-Ninety souls in peril of death on the randed mail steamer Russie, on coast

HOW IT STARTED.

A. Swanson and others.

Mr. Munford also read a telegram from
Hon. John W. Daniel, who was to have

(Continued on Second Page.)

later. -Big banquet given at the Jefferson by the South Atlantic Life lasurance Com-

-Man badly injured of rainted about the Richmond.

-Many interesting rumors about the Seaboard Air Line.

-Sudden death of Mrs. Lauer.

-Annual report of Prison Board made

decisive majority.

-Kidnapping case in Atlanta.

stranded mail steamer Russia.
near Marseilles.
—Chinese troops lose two hundred killed
in two battles with German troops.
—Sensation caused in Pekin by courts
—Sensation caused in Pekin by courts